Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Minister for Revenue):*
No.

FACTORIES ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL

80. **Mr. P. K. Dewer** *(Nominated):* Will Government be pleased to state.—
(*a*) when the Factory Act (Amendment) Bill regarding the restricting of working hours to 48 a week was finally passed by the Council;
(*b*) when it received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja;
(*c*) the date on which the Act came into force?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):*
(*a*) On 13th August 1946/28th Karkadagam 1121.
(*b*) On 17th October 1946/31st Kanni 1122.
(*c*) The Act has not yet been brought into force.

HOUSE RENT CONTROL ORDER

81. **Mr. Parambi Lonappen** *(Irinjalakkuda):* Will Government be pleased to state.—
(*a*) are the Government aware that a large percentage of house-owners in Ernakulam are middle-class people who depend on the rent of their building for their existence;
(*b*) will the Government be pleased to state if they have received any representation from these house-owners about the hardship they are put to by the provision of the Rent Control Order; and
(*c*) if so, what action was taken by the Government to give them adequate relief?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Minister for Revenue):*
(*a*) Government do not accept the assertions contained in the question as correct.
(*b*) Yes.
(*c*) They were considered and it was found that no action was called for.

82. **Mrs. T. Francis** *(Ernakulam-Women):* Will Government be pleased to state whether.—
(*a*) they are aware that a very large percentage of House-owners in Ernakulam are Middle-class people who depend on the rent of their houses for their existence;
(*b*) will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any representation from these house-owners about the hardship they are undergoing on account of the inequitable provisions of the Rent Control Order and if so, what action was taken by the Government to give them relief?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Minister for Revenue):*
(*a*) and (*b*) Please see answer to Question No. 81.

83. **Mrs. T. Francis** *(Ernakulam-Women):* It is seen from the Proclamation IV of 1122 that a percentage of increase of 8·1/3, 25 and 50 respectively are allowed in fixing fair rent for houses having rental values of Rs. 25 and below, between 25 and 100 and over Rs. 100 respectively. Will the Government be pleased to describe the policy underlying this discrimination?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Minister for Revenue):* The discrimination is intended to relieve the poorer classes whose paying capacity is relatively less and who form the majority of people, from paying a high rental and not to interfere very much with the right of the landlords to receive a high rental from those whose paying capacity is relatively higher.

84. **Mr. Parambi Lonappen** *(Irinjalakkuda):* Will Government be pleased to state.—
(*a*) the percentage of increase allowed, in fixing Fair Rent over the Rental Values of Rs. 25 and below between Rs. 25 and Rs. 100 and above Rs. 100;
(*b*) if there is any disparity, will Government be pleased to state the policy underlying this discrimination?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Minister for Revenue):*
(*a*) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to Section 4 of the Cochin Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Proclamation, IV of 1122.
(*b*) Please see answer to Question No. 83.

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